

NEWS SUMMARY.

City Affairs. David Berth, twenty-eight years, residing at No. 3021 Callowhill street, was run over yesterday at Eighth and Pine streets, and had one of his legs badly crushed.

The following amount of grain was measured in the city and port of Philadelphia for the quarter ending December 31, 1869:—Corn, 402,561 bushels; wheat, 223,281 1/2 bushels; oats, 234,018 bushels; rye, 31,897 bushels; barley, 234,823 1/2 bushels; malt, 44,665 bushels; seeds, 626 1/2 bushels; sundries, 11,312 bushels. Total, 1,386,884 1/2 bushels.

The survey for the contemplated railroad between Bustleton and Newtown has been completed, and is in the hands of the engineers. It is said to have an easy grade. It will cost to build the road \$3,000,000. It is proposed to issue bonds for one-half, getting them endorsed by the Camden and Amboy Company. \$150,000 must be raised in cash, and dividing the eleven miles into three sections, that from Newtown to the Buck is expected to raise \$750,000.

The following statement, compiled from the records at the Water Department, shows the number of gallons of water pumped by all the works belonging to the city during 1869:—

Table with 2 columns: Month and Gallons pumped. Total: 12,418,292,193.

Domestic Affairs. Gold closed yesterday at 120. Yesterday's internal revenue receipts were \$545,673.

The Missouri Legislature yesterday ratified the fifteenth amendment. Glen Falls National Bank, Troy, New York, has been robbed of \$20,000 by burglars.

Foreign Affairs. Election disturbances are reported in various parts of Spain. Serrano received the Spanish Cortes on the Feast of the Epiphany.

A Few More Words About the Declaration of Independence. The regular annual meeting of the American Philosophical Society was held yesterday afternoon at their rooms, Fifth street, below Chestnut.

BANTING AND HIS SYSTEM.

Everyone has heard of Banting, but it is surprising how little is known in this country either of him or his system—what manner of man he is, or how far he is entitled to credit as a discoverer. Yet Banting is an interesting man, and his system, if for nothing else, is well worth studying as the production of one who, neither possessing nor laying the slightest claim to scientific knowledge, has by his philanthropy and his untiring zeal done what writers preceding him failed to do—disseminated information which it was the task of able men to gain.

In 1868 the fifth edition of Banting's pamphlet on corpulence was published in the United States, yet it is only quite recently that the fourth edition was published in England. In a word, Banting's third edition was successively printed here as the fourth and the fifth. The fourth, however, is his last edition. That copies of it are somewhat scarce in this country may be judged from the fact that the one from which we shall presently have occasion to quote we were obliged to import.

Mr. Banting's aim is merely that of a philanthropist, anxious to contribute for the good of his fellow-men what proved beneficial to him. About his writing there is a great charm, of which he was unconscious, for it is derived from his unconsciousness. Of the art of writing he understands absolutely nothing; probably he could not, to save his life, have written a work on any other subject. But prompted by gratitude for relief from misery, and yearning to alleviate that of others, he wrote a book on the cure of a malady at whose victims mankind have always conspired to laugh, and without the least intention or suspicion on his part, made it singularly interesting and funny.

Mr. Banting says, "I deeply regret not having secured a photographic portrait of my original figure in 1862, to place in juxtaposition with one of my present form. It might have amused some, but certainly would have been very convincing to others, and astonishing to all, that such an effect should have been so readily and speedily produced by the simple method of exchanging a meagre for a generous diet, under proper advice."

Had Mr. Banting, when he entered on his crusade against obesity, been young, handsome, and ambitious, he might have occupied the proud position predicted by Brillat Savarin as the reward of him who should bring it under dominion. "Had I been," says Savarin, "a graduate of medicine, I would first of all have written a good treatise on obesity, then I would have established my empire in that nook of science; and I would have obtained the twofold advantage of having as patients people in the very best health, and of being daily besieged by the loveliest portion of mankind; for to have just enough plumpness, not a whit too much nor too little, is to woman the

study of her life. What I have not done, another doctor will do; and if he be at the same time skilful, discreet, and a good-looking fellow, I predict that he will accomplish wonders."

Another, not a doctor, not at all the sort of person prophesied, has succeeded in the appointed task, who, if he possesses not the attributes mentioned, has equally well accomplished it, and rests satisfied with his reward. In vain did Punch and some magistrates in scientific circles level their gibes at him, he has won the day. Single-handed he has invaded and conquered the world, and, by thousands, princes, peers, counts, baronets, officers, merchants, tradesmen, clerks, and ladies have lost sufficient flesh to join the host marching in his train, singing, "To triumph! we were fat, we are lean!"

DE HAVEN & BRO., DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, GOLD, ETC., No. 40 South Third Street, PHILADELPHIA.

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GLENDINNING, DAVIS & AMORY, BANKERS AND BROKERS, No. 17 WALL STREET, NEW YORK.

FINANCIAL. A RELIABLE HOME INVESTMENT THE FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS OF THE Wilmington and Reading Railroad BEARING INTEREST AT SEVEN PER CENT. U. S. Currency, PAYABLE APRIL AND OCTOBER, FREE OF STATE AND UNITED STATES TAXES.

FINANCIAL. COUPONS OF Union Pacific Railroad Co., Central Pacific Railroad Co., U. S. 5-20s and 1881s, DUE JANUARY 1, 1870, BOUGHT. GOLD BOUGHT. DE HAVEN & BRO., DEALERS IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES, GOLD, ETC., No. 40 South Third Street, PHILADELPHIA.

FIRST MORTGAGE SEVEN PER CENT. GOLD BONDS OF THE Fredericksburg and Gordonsville Railroad Co., of Virginia. Principal and Interest Payable in Gold.

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AMUSEMENTS. AMERICAN ACADEMY OF MUSIC. GRAND ITALIAN OPERA. WILLIAM TELL. MONDAY EVENING, JAN. 10, 1870. SPECIAL NOTICE.—In answer to numerous applications for a repetition of Rosini's Grand Opera of WILLIAM TELL, which was received with unbounded enthusiasm on Wednesday evening, we give the effect incidental to the Academy of Music and Theatre, No. 226 Chestnut street.

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